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Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /008 R

DRAFTED BY:EA:P:ART ROSEN
APPROVED BY:S/S-O:WILLIAM NEWLIN
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O 150639Z NOV 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 547

FOLLOWING RPEAT OF STATE 224090 SENT ACTION SAIGON
INFO BANGKOK, CANBERRA, JAKARTA, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA, MOSCOW,
PHNOM PENH, RANGOON, SEOUL, SINGAPORE, TAIPEI, VIENTIANE,
WELLINGTON, BIEN HOA, CAN THO, DANANG, HONG KONG, NHA
TRANG, JEC PARIS, PEKING, NAKHON PHNOM, CINCPAC HONOLULU,
COGARD POLAD DATED NOVEMBER 13, 1973 IS REPEATED TO YOU:
QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 13, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY
INDOCHINA
1. REUTER PEKING QUOTES SIHANOUK PRESS STATEMENT
FROM CANTON THAT FUNK AND GRUNK CONSIDER SECRETARY'S
VISIT OF INTEREST TO CHINA ONLY AND WILL NOT MEET
WITH HIM OR ANY OTHER US EMISSARY AS LONG AS US
CONTINUES MILITARY, ECON AND OTHER ASSISTANCE
TO "REGIME OF TRAITORS". REUTER NOTES THAT DURING
EARLIER HAK VISITS TO PEKING, SIHANOUK OFFERED
TO MEET HIM BUT WAS REBUKFED, AND IN RECENT MONTHS
PRINCE HAS OFTEN STATED THAT NEITHER HE NOR HIS
SUPPORTERS WOULD NEGOTIATE WITH ANY US OFFICIAL.
IN SAME CANTON PRESS STATEMENT SIHANOUK SAID THAT
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BECAUSE HIS MOTHER GRAVELY ILL HE WOULD NOT TRAVEL
ABROAD OR VISIT CAMBODIAN AREAS CONTROLLED BY
HIS FORCES, EITHER THIS YEAR OR NEXT. REUTER
NOTES LAST WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PEKING-BASED

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PORTION OF GRUNK WOULD MOVE TO CAMBODIA, AND THAT
SIHANOUK THREATENED LIBEL SUITS AGAINST ANYONE
WHO CALLS HIS REGIME A "GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE".

2. NCNA, MONITORED IN HK, SAYS PHAM VAN DONG,
AT HANOI RECEPTION FOR KHMER COMMUNIST LEADER
IENG SARY, REAFFIRMED NVN DETERMINATION TO DEFE,

STRENGTHEN SOLIDARITY WITH "FRATERNAL CAMBODIAN
PEOPLE." IENG SARY BROUGHT "HEARTFELT GREETINGS"
FROM SIHANOUK (REUTER).

3. FANK BATTLES TO REOPEN ROUTE 4 TO KOMPONG
SOM, CUT BY KC 38 MILES SW OF PP (UPI NYDN, PHINQ;
REUTER).
4. GKR FORCES BACKED BY ARTILLERY REPEL ALL-NIGHT
ATTACK 5 MILES SOUTH OF PP. MPS NAB SOLDIER WHO
THREW GRENADE IN KOMPONG SPEU MARKET, KILLING
2 AND WOUNDING 49; NO MOTIVE GIVEN (UPI, PHINQ).
FIELD REPORTS SAY FANK RETOOK SEVERAL VILLAGES
AGAINST HEAVY MORTAR FIRE IN DRIVE TO CLEAR SOUTHERN
APPROACHES TO PP (AP). ISOLATED PREY VENG CITY,
27 MILES EAST OF PP, HEAVILY SHELLED FOR SECOND
DAY. FANK CONTINUES CLEARING OPERATION 10 MILES
SW OF PP (REUTER).

5. OFFICIAL SOURCES IN VIENTIANE SAY SOUVANNA
PHOUMA HAS INVITED PL TO "SUMMIT MEETING" TO EXPEDITE
FORMATION OF NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT (UPI PHINQ,
NYDN).

6. SHARROCK (REUTER) FROM QUANG DUC QUOTES SENIOR
GVN OFFICERS THAT ARVN, FIGHTING TO REOPEN HIGHWAY
14 ALONG KHMER BORDER, IS OUTGUNNED AND OUTNUMBERED
AT LEAST 2-TO-1. 4000 NVA, WITH POSSIBLY MORE
COMING IN FROM CAMBODIA, FACE 2000 ARVN. BAD
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WEATHER CUTS DOWN VNAF STRIKES. GVN SOURCES SAY
THAT UNLESS ROAD OPENED, THREAT TO GIA NGIA WOULD
INCREASE (SIMILAR STORY IN CSM). SEIDEN (SUN)
AT GIA NGIA SEES DUSTY FRONTIER TOWN LIVING ON
BORROWED TIME, SURROUNDED AND FACING ATTACK WITH
MIXTURE OF PANIC AND RESIGNATION. HE NOTES THAT
QUANG DUC AND PHOUC LONG FORM BUFFER ZONE AND
LOSS WOULD GIVE VC A CORRIDOR FROM COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED
CAMBODIAN AREAS TO SAIGON SUBURBS. IN GIA NGIA
EVERYTHING IS SHORT AND SOLDIERS SENT IN TO DEFEND
IT CAUSE TROUBLE.

7. MILITARY SOURCES SAY FLOODS FOLLOWING TYPHOON
SARAH HIT SVN CENTRAL COAST WITH AT LEAST 28 DROWNED

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AND 530 HOUSES WASHED AWAY, AND CAUSING REDUCED
COMBAT LEVEL.25,000 AWAITING RESCUE AFTER SEEKING
HIGH GROUND IN BINH DINH PROVINCE, WITH NEARLY
AS MANY ABANDONING HOMES IN QUANG NGAI WHERE WATERS
ARE 6-FEET DEEP IN PROVINCE CAPITAL. MANY BRIDGES
WASHED OUT, CROPS BADLY DAMAGED (REUTER).

8. PRG ASKS ICCS TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED BOMBING
OF LO GO AND BEN RA, 75 MILES NW OF SAIGON, AND
SCALES DOWNITS CASUALTY REPORT FROM "DOZENS" TO
4 KILLED AND 7 WOUNDED (UPI, BALT. N-A). GVN
REPORTS 4-MONTH LOW OF 53 COMMUNIST C-F VIOLATIONS
IN PAST DAY (UPI).
9. SHIPLER (NYT) WRITES FROM BIEN HOA OF FORGOTTEN
VILLAGERS FROM BEN SUC, RELOCATED TO BIEN HOA
BY US ARMY 7 YEARS AGO WHEN THEIR VILLAGE, IN
VC AREA, WAS DESTROYED. VILLAGERS SAY NO ONE
WANTED TO LEAVE PROSPEROUS HOME AREA. THEY NOW
LIVE IN POVERTY AND SEEK WORK. SOME GIVEN PUBLIC
LAND AFTER RELOCATION NOW BEING CLAIMED BY OWNERS,
FREQUENTLY RELATIVES OF HIGH OFFICIALS, WHO HAVE
RECENTLY BOUGHT IT FROM GVN. VILLAGERS ARE RESIGNED
BUT HOPE TO GET BACK TO BEN SUC, EVEN IF ONLY
FOR BURIAL.

10. UPI WASHINGTON QUOTES AID OFFICIAL NOOTER
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TELLING HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONSSUBCOMMITTEE
THAT THOUGH C-F NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTED, ENOUGH
POLITICAL AND MILITARY STABILITY EXISTS IN SVN
AND LAOS TO PERMIT ECON PROGRAMS DIRECTED TO RECONSTRUCTION,
REHABILITATION AND ECON DEVELOPMENT. NOOTER ADDED
THAT US ECON AID SHOULD GRADUALLY DECLINE AS AID
FROM OTHERS, AND LOCAL OUTPUT, INCREASES.
CHINA

11. MAO-HAK TWO AND THREE-QUARTER HOUR TALK RECEIVES
WIDE NEWS AND PHOTO COVERAGE. PAPERS NOTE UNUSUAL
LENGTH OF MEETING, US OFFICIALS' CAUTION AGAINST
SPECULATION THAT MAJOR SINO-US DEVELOPMENTS ARE
AT HAND, AND MAO'S SENDING HIS REGARDS TO PRES.

12. NYDN'S CARTER OBSERVES THAT JOINT US-PRC
STATEMENT SPOKE OF "FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE" BUT GAVE
LITTLE OF MEETING'S SUBSTANCE, AND REPORTS US
AIDES SAID US WILL NOT BREAK RELATIONS
WITH GRC
IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH FULL RELATIONS WITH PRC.
CARTER NOTES (PHINQ, NOT IN NYDN) THAT MCCLOSKEY
ANSWERED "NO COMMENT" WHEN ASKED IF US FORCES
ON TAIWAN WERE DISCUSSED WITH MAO. CHITRIB'S

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STARR SAYS "IT IS GENERALLY THOUGHT THAT FURTHER TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES HAVE COME UP," INCLUDING CLAIMS SETTLEMENT. ADDS THAT MAO'S SENDING REGARDS TO PRES. "WAS TAKEN AMONG OBSERVERS HERE AS A SPECIFIC GESTURE OF CONFIDENCE AT A TIME OF DOMESTIC CRISIS FOR NIXON."

13. WP'S MARDER SEES MAO HAVING "RECOMMITTED HIS PRESTIGE TO THE BROADENING OF SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS" IN MEETING WITH KISSINGER. NOTES HOWEVER THAT US OFFICIALS DISCOUNTED "MORE FIRMLY" THAN THEY HAVE SINCE ARRIVING IN PEKING SUGGESTIONS THAT ANY MAJOR NEW INITIATIVE IN US CHINA POLICY "WILL SOON BE ANNOUNCED HERE." BUT MCCLOSKE,BY RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ON THE ISSUE WITH BARE "NO COMMENT," SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT HAK TOLD MAO US WILL PROCEED WITH FURTHER REDUCTION OF FORCES IN TAIWAN. MARDER UNCLASSIFIED

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SUGGESTS MAO PROBABLY EXPLORED WITH HAK MANY POINTS ABOUT US-SOVIET DETENTE AND ME C-F IN ORDER TO DETERMINE RANGE AND LIMITATIONS OF US TRIANGULAR DIPLOMACY WITH PEKING AND MOSCOW. WHY WANG HUNG-WEN DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN MAO-KISSINGER TALKS IS UNCLEAR, MARDER OBSERVES.

14. REUTER'S SHARP, IN PEKING, FEELS MAO MEETING WAS GESTURE BY CHINESE THAT "CLEARLY INDICATED THEIR PERSONAL ESTEEM" FOR SECRETARY AS WELL AS IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH US. NOTES "IT IS RARE FOR MAO TO MEET ANY VISITING FOREIGNER BELOW THE RANK OF PRIME MINISTER, LET ALONE A REPRESENTATIVE OF A COUNTRY LIKE THE US WHICH HAS NO FORMAL DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CHINA."

15. SECRETARY INTERVIEW MONDAY WITH 3 MAJOR US NETWORKS DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO ME. ASKED ABOUT SPECIFICS OF CHINA TALKS, HE SAID THEY COVER "ALL OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AS WELL AS SINO-US RELATIONSHIPS" (TEXT, NYT).

16. SPEAKING TO US NEWSMEN TUESDAY BEFORE RESUMING TALKS WITH KISSINGER, CHOU REITERATES THAT HE WILL NOT VISIT US WHILE USG MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GRC. SIDESTEPS QUESTION OF HOW LONG THAT SITUATION WILL LAST, SAYING SECRETARY'S THE ONE TO ANSWER. CHOU ALSO DISCLOSES THAT SECRETARY'S MONDAY NIGHT MEETING WITH MAO WAS LONGEST CHAIRMAN HAS HELD WITH ANY FOREIGN VISITOR FOR ABOUT 2 YEARS (REUTER).

17. AP (TAIPEI) REPORTS CHIANG KAI-SHEK, "APPARENTLY

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REACTING TO" SECRETARY'S PRC VISIT, SAID MONDAY
IN MESSAGE TO BE READ TO KMT CONVENTION, THAT ATTEMPTS
TO SEEK WORLD POWER BALANCE ARE "ONLY AN EXCUSE

OF THE APPEASERS." CHIANG SAID PEKING RECENTLY
HAS BEEN "PREACHING IDENTIFICATION, RETURN TO THE
MOTHERLAND AND UNIFICATION" -- BUT GRC WILL NEVER
NEGOTIATE OR COMPROMISE WITH CHINESE COMMUNISTS.
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IN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO OFFSET SPECULATION ABOUT
GIMO'S HEALTH, GRC RELEASED PHOTO SHOWING HIM RECEIVING
NINE DELEGATES TO CONVENTION (BALT. NEWS-AMER.).

18. GRC CUSTOMS STATISTIRS SHOWED MONDAY THAT
COUNTRY'S FOREIGN TRADE TOTALED 6.44 BILLION DOLLARS
IN FIRST 10 MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, WITH EXPORTS SURPASSING
IMPORTS BY 594.2 MILLION DOLLARS. US REMAINED
TOP TRADING PARTNER (UPI, JOC).

JAPAN

19. REUTER TOKYO REPORTS THAT YIELDING TO PRESSURE
FOR DEVALUATION, BANK OF JAPAN RAISED DOLLAR PRICE
TO 280 YEN (ABOUT 2 PERCENT), MAKING A TOTAL OF
5 PERCENT EHIFT IN 2 WEEKS. WHILE PARTIALLY ERASING
EFFECT OF US FEBRUARY DEVALUATION, JAPANESE DEMAND
FOR DOLLARS IS STILL HIGH; 100 MILLION DOLLARS
SOLD BY CENTRAL BANK YESTERDAY.

20. JAPANESE FIND PLANE WRECKAGE AND BODY OF A-
7 PILOT WHO CRASHED NEAR KOFU, IN 3D CRASH IN A
MONTH FROM THE MIDWAY (REUTER, WP).

21. SUPPORTED BY UNIONS IN OTHER PORTS, TOKYO
LOCAL DOCKERS WALKED OFF YESTERDAY TO PRESS MANAGEMENT
TO RETURN TO BARGAINING (JOC).

22. (JOC) CULLISON REPORTEDLY REPORTS JAPAN TRADE
VICE MINISTER, IN ANNOUNCING OVERALL CUT OF 20
PERCENT IN CRUDE OIL IMPORTS, SAID SIZE OF FUTURE
PRODUCTION SLASHES DEPENDS ON OIL RESTRICTIONS
AND GOJ USE OF ELECTRICITY. RESTRICTIVE MEASURES
RECOMMENDED TO PM TANAKA ARE BASED ON ASSUMPTION
ARAB EXPORT CUTBACKS WILL BE "SOLVED" WITHIN 6
MONTHS. CULLISON SEPARATELY REPORTS JAPANESE SHIPPING
LINES LLANNING ACTION ON MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION
FREIGHT PEELING RECOMMENDATION, DESPITE MANUFACTURERS
AND TRADING HOUSES OPPOSITION. THE SCHEME WOULD
ELIMINATE EXCESSIVE BOTTOMS ON PACIFIC ROUTES AND
STABILIZE TRADE.
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23. 4000 STUDENTS IN SEOUL'S EWHA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY JOINED MONTH LONG BOYCOTT OF CLASSES PROTESTING STUDENT ARRESTS, KCIA, AND "FASCIST RULE". SCHOOL AUTHORITIES WARN BOYCOTTERS OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION (NYT; AP, CSM, PHINQ, NYDN).

SINGAPORE

24. UPI SINGAPORE REPORTS 2 SOVIET WARSHIPS PASSED THROUGH MALACCA STRAITS TO JOIN SOVIET FLEET IN INDIAN OCEAN (NYDN).

THAILAND

25. THAI GOVT. COMMITTEE JUST BEGINNING INVESTIGATION DISCOVERS 10.75 MILLION DOLLARS DEPOSITED IN BANGKOK BANKS BY EX-PM THANOM, HIS SON NARONG, AND GEN. PRAPHAT (CHITRIB).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

26. CHITRIB EXPRESSES CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM FOR PEACE IN ME WHERE BIG POWER RIVALRY INCLUDES ALSO CHINA, WHICH HAS PUT ITS CHIPS ON THE EXTREMIST ARAB GUERRILLA MOVEMENT AS THE USSR DEALS THROUGH THE POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT. REFERRING TO CHOU'S DESCRIPTION OF SECRETARY AS THE "MIDDLE EAST CYCLONE," TRIB COMMENTS THAT "IF PEKING CAN BE SWEP UP IN THE WINDS OF RECONCILIATION AND DO SOMETHING TO DISCOURAGE ARAB EXTREMISTS, THEN DR. KISSINGER WILL HAVE INDEED PROVED HIMSELF A WONDER"; DETENTE WILL BE WORKING; AND ME PEACE WILL BECOME A REALISTIC HOPE.

27. LAT'S ELEGANT (NOV. 11) IN HONG KONG WRITES AGAINON FACTIONS FIGHTING IT OUT IN PRC: LEFTISTS WHO STAND FOR THE CEASELESS "CONTINUING REVOLUTION," UNCLASSIFIED

SOMEWHAT INCONGRUOUSLY COMBINED WITH RIGOROUS CENTRALIZATION OF POWER AND EQUALLY RIGOROUS THOUGHT CONTROL, AGAINST THOSE WHO WISH TO FOLLOW REASONABLY MODERATE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES WHILE PERMITTING DEGREE OF REGIONAL AUTONOMY AND BARE MODICUM OF IDEOLOGICAL RELAXATION. OBSERVES THAT PRESENT POLEMICS MOUNTED BY LEFTISTS (WHO ARE IN WEAKER POSITION) INVOLVE ABTRUSE DISCUSSION OF ANCIENT CHINESE HISTORY. RECALLING THAT 1951 "THOUGHT REFORM MOVEMENT," 1955 "CAMPAIGN TO SUPPRESS COUNTER-

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REVOLUTIONARIES," 1957 "HUNDRED FLOWERS MOVEMENT," AND GPCR WERE PRECEDED BY OSTENSIBLY ACADEMIC CONTROVERSY, ELEGANT SEES PRESENT POLEMICS, WHICH HAVE YET TO DRAW EFFECTIVE RESPONSE FROM MODERATES, PORTENDING MAJOR POLITICAL UPHEAVAL. DISPUTE CENTERS AROUND CONFUCIUS, WHOSE THOUGHTS LEFTISTS CONTEND ARE STILL MAJOR OBSTACLE TO DEVELOPMENT OF PRESENT CHINESE SOCIETY; AND CHIN SHIH HUANG TI, WHO UNIFIED CHINA ABOUT 220 BC. SPECIALISTS INTERPRET LEFTIST ATTACK AS AN ATTACK ON CHOU, WHILE IOPLYING THAT MAO STANDS FOR A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, ABSOLUTE THOUGHT CONTROL, AND AN AGGRESSIVE FOREIGN POLICY OF "LIBERATION."

28. AP HONG KONG REPORTS THAT PRC IS ALLOWING MORE LEGAL EMIGRATION THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER, THUS CREATING A SERIOUS HOUSING AND WELFARE PROBLEM IN HK. BUILDING UP MOST OF THE YEAR, INFLUX HIT WHAT HK OFFICIALS PRIVATELY CALL A "NEAR CRISIS" STAGE LATE OCTOBER. ABOUT

7,000 CHINESE WITH EXIT VISAS RROSSED INTO HK IN OCT. AND 2,191 CROSSED IN FIRST FIVE DAYS OF NOV. SINCE FIRST OF YEAR, MORE THAN 46,000 CHINESE HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO LEAVE CHINA; IN ALL 1972, THERE WERE ABOUT 5,800; IN 1971, 2,369. FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE "ILLEGAL" REFUGEES ESTIMATED TO NUMBER BETWEEN 12,000 -,$ 15,000 YEARLY. OFFICIALS SAY A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS ARE CHINESE FROM SEA WHO RETURNED TO CHINA IN THE 1960S. THERE ARE UNCLASSIFIED

INDICATIONS THAT MANY HAD BECOME DISILLUSIONED AND WANTED OUT FOR SEVERAL YEARS - BUT NO EXPLANATION OF WHY PRC HAS SUDDENLY AGREED TO LET THEM GO.

29. CSM'S POND IN TOKYO FOLLOWS UP ON TWO OF FOUR CONDITIONS WHICH JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY WERE LAID DOWN BY GOJ FOR SETTLEMENT OF KIM DAE JUNG CASE. FIRST WAS THAT KIM IS TO BE FREE AND NOT TRIED KOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO HIS KIDNAPPING; SECOND, THE ROKG TO HAVE FIRST SECRETARY KIM DONG WOON, WHOSE FINGERPRINTS WERE FOUND AT ABDUCTION SCENE, TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KIDNAPPING. RE FIRST, POND NOTES THAT KIM'S STATUS IS STILL HAZY. APPARENTLY NO KCIA GUARDS NOW LIVING IN HIS HOUSE, BUT HIS FRIENDS, REPORTEDLY ON KCIA RECOMMENDATION, ARE COUNSELING HIM TO STAY AT HOME FOR HIS OWN SAFETY. MOST IMPORTANTLY, ROK SO FAR IS NOT PERMITTING KIM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. ROKG SAYS HE IS FREE TO GO ABROAD "UNDER NORMAL PROCEDURES," BUT "NORMAL PROCEDURES" OFTEN INCLUDE REFUSAL TO ISSUE PASSPORTS

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TO CITIZENS WISHING TO TRAVEL OVERSEAS. JAPANESE SOURCES DIFFER IN THEIR INTERPRETATION OF ROK ASSURANCES ON KIM'S FREEDOM. THEY AGREE THAT ROK WILL NOT FOLLOW-UP EARLIER HINTS AND TRY KIM ON ANTI-STATE CHARGES FOR PREVIOUS POLITICAL ACTIVITY. NEWS LEAKS TO JAPANESE PRESS INDICATE THAT ROK WILL ADMIT KIM DONG WOON'S RESPONSIBILITY AND WILL PUNISH HIM, BUT WILL SAY HE WAS ACTING COMPLETELY ON HIS OWN, WITHOUT OFFICIAL ORDERS. SO FAR, HOWEVER, ROK HAS NOT GONE BEYOND DISMISSING KIM DONG WOON FROM HIS DIPLOMATIC POST. POND REGARDS REMOVAL A FEW DAYS AGO OF 10 KOREANS FROM THE DIPLOMATIC LIST IN JAPAN AS TACIT ADMISSION OF ROK INVOLVEMENT IN ABDUCTION. IT IS WIDELY EXPECTED IN TOKYO THAT THE KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN AND THE KCIA MINISTER AT THE EMBASSY WILL BE REPLACED.

30. S-N'S O'LEARY (NOV. 11) PERCEIVES "CURIOUS ROLE-REVERSAL BETWEEN WH AND DOS SINCE HAK BECAME SECRETARY. SECRECY THAT ONCE PREVAILED AT WH HAS BEEN EASING, BUT DOS, "A USUALLY OPEN SOCIETY WITH A PAUCITY
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OF SECRETS, HAS BUTTONED UP SINCE THE ADVENT OF KISSINGER." COUNTRY DESK OFFICERS AND PRESS SPOKESMEN HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN ACCESSIBLE FOR BACKGROUND INFO, AND STILL ARE, ACCORDING O'LEARY; BUT HAK CONFIDES IN ONLY A FEW AIDES, AND PLAYING HIS CARDS CLOSE TO CHEST HAS DRIED UP TRADITIONAL SOURCES OF INFO. O'LEARY CONCEDES THAT HAK IS AFFABLE AND GOOD AT SMALL TALK WITH PRESS, BUT CLEARLY HOPES SECRETARY WILL HAVE TIME FOR SCOTCH-AND-WATER SESSIONS RUSK USED TO HAVE WITH REPORTERS. CONCEDES THAT SECRETARY MAY OPEN UP ONCE HE IS OORE COMFORTABLE AND LESS BUSY. MAINTAINING THAT HE HAS, IN A SENSE, GONE PUBLIC BY ACCEPTING THE SECRETARYSHIP, O'LEARY CONTENDS THAT IN HIS NEW ROLE, HAK IS ANSWERABLE TO CONGRESS AS HE NEVER WAS WHEN NSC WAS HIS ONLY PORTFOLIO; AND THE PRESS WILL ALWAYS BE NEAR HIM AT DOS AS IT COULD NEVER BE WHEN HE WAS HIDDEN AWAY IN THE WH.

31. GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW (NOV. 11) IN BANGKOK REPORTS USG'S "FIRST PUBLIC DEFENSE" OF THANOM'S PRESENCE IN BOSTON IN RESPONSE TO THAI STUDENT PROTEST. CITES EMBASSY AS SAYING THAT VISA WAS ISSUED WITH "THE EXPRESS DESIRE OF STUDENTS AND OTHERS THAT HE LEAVE THE COUNTRY. IN ORDER TO DO SO HE OBVIOUSLY HAD TO HAVE A PLACE TO GO." STATEMENT ALSO SAID THANOM HAD BEEN GRANTED A "VISITORS VISA" TO THE US AT THE HEIGHT OF THE RIOTS "WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT." THOUGH NOT

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MENTIONED IN THE STATEMENT, EMBASSY SOURCES POINTED OUT THAT THAILAND HAD RECEIVED SUCH SEA LEADERS AS SVN'S "BIG" MINH,SIHANOUK AND U NU UNDER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES IN PAST.

32. FROM BANGKOK, GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW (NOV 11) OBSERVES THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF CHINA,ASIAN NEWSPAPERS AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS ARE BEGINNING TO DISCUSS WATERGATE

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AND TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF IMPEACHMENT OR RESIGNATION. NOTES SENSE THAT WATERGATE IS ESSENTIALLY DOMESTIC US ISSUE. MODERATE BANGKOK POST EDITORIAL COMMENTS THAT "IT IS ONE OF THE GREAT PARADOXES OF OUR TIME THAT THE COUNTRY MOST CAPABLE OF PROLONGED AND OFTEN BITTER INTROSPECTION CAN TODAY NOT SEE THAT ITS LEADER IS NOT FIT TO GOVERN...THE MORAL CONDUCT OF A GOVERNMENT AND MEN WHO GOVERN

IS NOTHING MORE THAN A REFLECTION OF THE SOCIETY IN WHICH IT OPERATES. IF AMERICANS HAVE TOLERATED MR. NIXON FOR THIS LONG PERHAPS THEY DESERVE HIM." SIMILAR EDITS APPEARED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND VERNACULAR PRESS IN HONG KONG, SINGAPORE AND MANILA. ASIAN GOVERNMENT LEADERS OFF-THE-RECORD AND PRIVATE CITIZENS ARE SAYING MUCH THE SAME AS THE PRESS.

33. FROM TOKYO, NYT'S BUTTERFIELD, POST'S OBERDORFER AND CSM REPORT MITI VICE MINISTER YAMASHITA MAKING DIRE FORECAST OF IMPACT OF ME OIL SHORTAGE ON JAPANESE ECONOMY AND PROPOSING COUNTER-MEASURES. BUTTERFIELD AND OBERDORFER NOTE GOJ SLOWNESS TO REACT TO SHORTAGES, WITH LATTER SAYING THAT IT MAY OR MAY NOT BE A COINCIDENCE THAT THE GOJ IS BEGINNING TO SOUND ALARM JUST TWO DAYS BEFORE SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN TOKYO. OBERDORFER COMMENTS THAT JAPAN'S DIRE FORECASTS, PLANNED REMEDIAL MEASURES AND POTENTIAL PUBLIC REACTION MAY 3 CITED TO HAK IN JUSTIFICATION OF MORE SWEEPING DIPLOMATIC MOVES TOWARD ARAB SIDE, AND AS SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IN APPEALS FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FROM US-DOMINATED MAJOR OIL COMPANIES.

34. FROM MANILA, WP'S GREENWAY OBSERVES ATMOSPHERE OF "MILD CONFUSION" AS GASOLINE RATIONING BEGAN NOV. 12. CONFUSION ATTRIBUTED TO SOME CONTRADICTORY DECREES ISSUED FROM PRESIDENTIAL PALACE "LIKE THUNDERBOLTS FROM OLYMPUS." REPORTS GOP ANNOUNCEMENT
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OF CREATION OF PHIL NATIONAL OIL COMPANY, PURPOSE
OF WHICH IS TO LESSEN DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN-OWNED
CORPORATIONS FOR OIL IMPORTS. GOP SOURCES SAY US
COMPANIES HANDLE 63.3 PERCENT OF IMPORTS WHILE 25.2
PERCENT IS REFINED BY SHELL; GOP IS NOW TRYING
TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH SOME PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO
AVOID BEING TAINTED TOO MUCH BY AMERICAN BRUSH. GOP
SPOKESMAN SAYS ONE WAY MIGHT BE TO COMBINE
LIMITED CAPACITY OF FIL REFINERIES WITH A THIRD
COUNTRY, SUCH AS SINGAPORE, SO THAT PHILS COULD
IMPORT MORE OIL ON THEIR OWN AND LESS THROUGH
AMERICAN CHANNELS; OR GET ARAB DISPENSATION FOR OIL
COMING TO THE PHILS EVEN VIA AMERICAN COMPANIES.
ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS TO NATIONALIZE FOREIGN
REFINERIES, BUT SPOKESMAN HASTENED TO ADD THAT SUCH
A DRASTIC MOVE NOT NOW BEING CONTEMPLATED, NOR DID
HE THINK
IT WOULD EVER BECOME NECESSARY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE224090
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ROSEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejuz.tel
Line Count: 510
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 10
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Sep-2001 by chappeld>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOVEMBER 13, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY INDOCHINA 1. REUTER PEKING QUOTES SIHANOUK PRESS STATEMENT FROM CANTON THAT FUNK AND GRUNK CONSIDER SECRETARY'S VISIT OF INTEREST TO CHINA ONLY AND WILL NOT MEET WITH HIM OR ANY OTHER US EMISSARY AS LONG AS US
TAGS: XC, US
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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